

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The general situation in Bulgaria has improved in the past two years because of an increase in production in nearly all economic sectors which also brought about an increase in salaries and therefore resulted in the possibility of purchasing products sold on the market.
2. A factory worker now receives an average of 25-30 leva daily, and may reach 60 leva if he is specialized. In spite of this it is necessary that other members of the family work since foodstuffs and clothing are generally expensive. Factory and office workers, however, are better off than farmers. Office workers receive an average of 500 leva per month, and in some cases as much as 800 leva.
3. At present there is active propaganda toward persuading the peasants to become members of the TKZS (Trudovo Kooperativno Zemedelsko Stopantsvo; Labor Cooperative of Agrarian Farmers). In spite of this, the peasants are reticent to join. Official propaganda stresses that those who are members of the TKZS are happy because they have derived real prosperity and benefit from the use of technical equipment they received from the government. Actually, provisions established by the statutes of the cooperatives are still too onerous and the peasants, as long as they can, prefer to administer their own property personally.
4. A peasant who joins the TKZS places his property at the disposal of the collective for a 5-year period. The collective is formed of an average of 30-40 members. If at the completion of the five years, the peasant wishes to withdraw from the cooperative, he is in danger of not getting back his own piece of land, which may be located in the center of the cooperative, and therefore not returnable; but in its place he may be granted another piece of land which will have the same dimensions but not the same productivity. Furthermore, peasants who are members of the

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cooperative receive only a portion of the products grown while the largest percentage is kept by the State. Not all cooperatives are unprofitable, however. That of Pazardzhik, for example, is very well organized and is equipped with Soviet agricultural machinery which is excellent.

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